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# Extension Service *Review*

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## The spirit of Caracas

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United States Department of Agriculture

■ The Third Inter-American Conference on Agriculture, held at Caracas, Venezuela, July 24-August 7, brought out three special points of interest to extension workers: (1) Western Hemisphere countries see the great need for close cooperation in agriculture; (2) Cultural differences need be no bar to mutual progress; (3) Latin-American peoples look to the United States for leadership in Extension training.

The friendly and cooperative spirit of the conference is best told in the words of its president, His Excellency Doctor Angel Biaggini, Minister of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry of Venezuela. I quote from his inaugural address:

"Amidst the serious conditions created by this war, and with the difficult problems of the post-war period already before us, we deem this an emergency assembly called upon to meet courageously delicate and far-reaching problems which affect all of us in the same measure.

"But besides the study and solution of problems so important and

urgent, this conference must have the further generous and everlasting aim of tightening the bonds of inter-American amity with the noble hope that one day our peoples may constitute an ideal unity where self-worship shall find no altars and where a new spirit fired by unchangeable affection shall make us feel as our very own the joy, the achievement, and the sorrow of each other; where men endeavor to efficiently convert into reality their good thoughts and pure intentions.

At Caracas, I found considerable interest among delegations from the other American republics in expanding the program of training agricultural technicians in United States extension methods. Under projects launched since the ground work was laid at Mexico City in 1942, 88 students from South American republics have already received practical extension training on farms and in

numerous State and county extension offices in the United States. I had a number of sessions with the representatives of different Latin-American republics who praised the work of trainees who had returned and who were interested in sending additional students here.

These leaders are convinced that the first step to agricultural progress among their people is to help people help themselves. They are interested in practical methods, which can be used in the circumstances under which people live. They are interested in methods that will help improve health and living, as well as production technology.

Coming, as it did, just before news of the atomic bomb and the end of the war with Japan, and considering the subject matter covered, we may regard Caracas as the first international meeting on post-war agriculture. We hope that the spirit of friendship and true democracy which prevailed will serve as the pattern for similar conferences on agriculture that will extend beyond the Western Hemisphere.

### PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Buy a bond? ask the 4-H salesmen of Weld County, Colo. More than \$3,700 worth of bonds were sold from this booth. Throughout the country more than \$200,000,000 worth have been bought by 4-H Club members or sold to others in the time since Pearl Harbor. For these achievements Director Wilson accepted an award from the Treasury Department on August 28. 4-H Clubs are now set for the new Victory Loan starting October 29. November 3-11 is National Achievement Week. Be sure your county knows what 4-H Clubs have accomplished.





# Demonstration means the same the world around

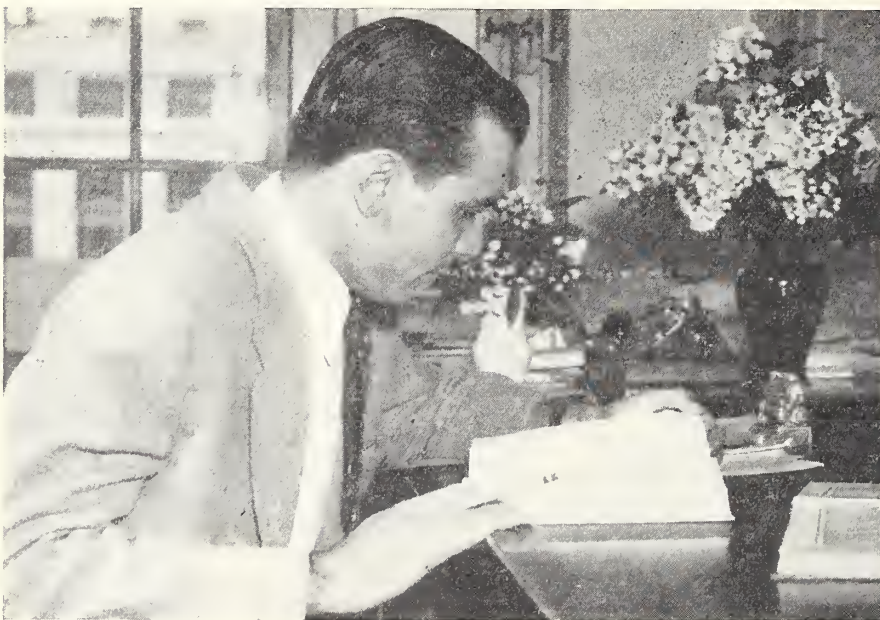
■ "Every farmer in the world must have come from Missouri—because they all have that famous 'show me' complex!"

Gerbert N. Bastos, Brazilian trainee from Minas Geraes, made that observation with a chuckle. But—he was plenty serious when he went on from there to point out that this innate characteristic of *agricolas* made the demonstration farm the most valuable extension teaching technique that could be applied in his own country.

This is Bastos' conclusion after a year's study of farm practices and extension methods made possible through a fellowship provided by the Office of Inter-American Affairs. Most of his training was obtained under the supervision of the cooperative extension services in Texas and New York.

Bastos admits he was "sold" on the idea of a demonstration farm before he ever stepped off the plane at Miami, but the good long look he took at many extension methods during his training here hasn't changed his opinion.

A student of the demonstration method, Mr. Bastos at his desk in Washington, studies about extension experiences in this field.



There is a reason of course, for his devotion to the demonstration farm idea. He helped set up a demonstration farm more than 1,000 miles up the Amazon. This farm, in the village of Caldeirao near the city of Manaus in the State of Amazonas, is one of nine such training units established within the past 3 years by the Commissao Brasileiro-Americana de Producao de Generos Alimenticios. In plain English, that long Portuguese phrase means Brazilian-American Food Commission. The BAC, or CBA as the Portuguese call it, is an operating agency of the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture financed by the Brazilian Government and the Office of Inter-American Affairs.

Employed by the CBA 27 months ago, after his graduation from the Minas Geraes Agricultural College, Bastos first had the task of selecting a proper location for the demonstration farm. For that purpose he had made a survey of possible sites and transportation facilities up the tributaries of the Amazon. He found, however, that transportation beyond



Gerbert N. Bastos (right) directs a demonstration farm far up the Amazon in his native Brazil.

Manaus was much too slow for satisfactory operation. Returning to Manaus, he arranged with the Colonization Service of the Ministry of Agriculture to provide land for a farm there. Sixteen young sons of farmers were then selected from typical farming areas within the State of Amazonas to be given a year's training on the farm.

Before actual farming operations could get under way, living quarters for the Bastos trainees had to be constructed and the land cleared of trees and underbrush. In designing the farm structures, Bastos followed the thatch-roofed style prevailing in the area but made each of the buildings just a little better than any in the neighborhood. Clearing the forests was done by hand labor. Curved machetes and long-handled straight-bladed knives, and axes, the most typical tools in the region, were used.

In explaining that the land was first broken with oxen-drawn plow, although a tractor was available, Bastos pointed out that one of the objectives was to start with the tools and customs familiar to the natives and gradually introduce improved equipment and new practices. When he left the farm to come to the United States, horses and mules were beginning to be used for farm power. The tractor was still being



used mainly as a source of power for operating the rice mill.

Crops in production on Bastos' departure from Caldeirao included rice, corn, vegetables, and poultry. Some 5,000 citrus seedlings, later to be grafted and transplanted into groves, had also been set out.

At the end of the year, the boys are expected to return home to put the improved production methods into practice on their own farms.

The CEA farm-demonstration training program, Bastos said, is built entirely upon the principle of learning by doing. Each farm, in time, will produce hogs, poultry, cattle, fruits, vegetables, cereals, and the principal crops of the region involved. Methods for the production and care of seeds, milk, eggs, and so forth are stressed. Each trainee is taught the proper care and usage of animals

and machinery. He is also taught how to build inexpensive farm buildings and fences, to dig wells, build small dams, and carry on other farming operations essential to the efficient profitable operation of a farm.

During his stay in the United States, Bastos has been interested in animal husbandry in addition to his study of extension methods. The major part of his training was obtained, at his request, on dairy farms and ranches near the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, as climatic conditions there are similar to those in Brazil. He gave special attention to breeding experiments with the zebu or Brahman as a meat animal. The zebu, because of its ability to thrive in a hot, humid climate, comprises the bulk of Brazil's beef herds, he said.

necessary part of the cropland or pasture. They use a mixture of species adapted to soil and moisture conditions. They promise to plant trees promptly or heel in immediately on arrival and to use extreme care to prevent roots from drying out while planting. The scalp method of planting trees is advised where there is considerable vegetative competition, especially with hardwoods and shrubs.

Plantations are inspected often, and any problems such as disease, crowding, or other damage are reported to the club agent or district staff.

This year 10 boys and girls in Allegany County started on this new, long-time forestry planting project by setting about 25,000 trees and shrubs. Next year they will plant about an equal number and so on through the years. With excellent technical advice and follow-up, these planned forestry enterprises should be valuable demonstrations of proper land use by younger club members as well as profitable and educational projects for the club member co-operators. Furthermore, they give boys and girls a chance to make a real contribution to the county program of soil and moisture conservation.

## 4-H demonstrates farm forests

FRED E. WINCH, JR., Assistant Extension Forester, Cornell University

■ The people of Allegany County, N. Y., are justly proud of the excellent teamwork of their extension workers and of the fine spirit of cooperation existing between their extension service and other agricultural agencies.

Typical of this cooperative spirit are the relations between the 4-H Department and the Allegany County Soil Conservation District. Of course, 4-H Club members have been planting trees for a long time in the county, beginning 'way back in 1929. But when Robert Reed, district soil conservationist, and Laurence Dedrick, county 4-H Club agent, began checking over these plantations, which total more than a million trees, they found many of the plantations had surprisingly poor survival and were not located in the proper place on the farm. They discovered also that few club members had gone very far toward developing a plantation of significant size. After planting the 1,000 trees that they received free from the conservation department, they didn't go on and purchase trees to enlarge the plantation. Some continuation program was obviously needed.

Bob Reed, who has a way of turn-

ing ideas into action, suggested a plan whereby club members who have done a good job in planting their first 1,000 trees can continue the project over a period of years and develop a plantation that is really worthwhile.

Here's how the plan works. Parents agree to turn over to the club member a specified area of land for his own reforestation project. The club member signs a regular agreement with the Allegany County Soil Conservation District based on a long-time plan to develop a plantation in keeping with the needs of the farm and the age and ability of the club member. It may be 5 acres or even 25, depending on circumstances.

The soil conservation district furnishes approximately 50 percent of all trees planted. More important, the boy or girl receives technical assistance from the district staff in locating the plantation site and selecting the species best adapted, and complete instructions and individual help in the establishment and care of the plantation.

The young folks are advised to use for reforestation only land that is not adapted to farming or is not a

### A plan that works

Richland County, Wis., extension workers always "let their right hand know what their left is doing."

The county has a cooperative schedule in which the county agent, A. V. Miller; the home agent, Glee Hemingway; the food assistant, Leonard Butcher; and the labor assistant, Alfred Cairns, all know each other's plans and take part in them.

"It has been a habit in our office," says Miller, "for each of us to know what the other person is doing and when he is doing it." They often have planning-ahead meetings if they see some big job coming up that will need the full cooperation of the staff. For instance, the home agent may pitch in to help with the dairy program. Or the food assistant may help with the pressure cooker testing.

Like other counties, Richland has a plan of work a year in advance, and frequent informal meetings are held to coordinate their work.



# Scheduling extension speakers

■ When a New York State College of Agriculture Extension specialist visits any one of the counties in the State, his path can be traced backwards right to the office of Mrs. Blanche W. Monroe in Roberts Hall on the Cornell campus.

The big chart on the west wall of her office and the U. S. train schedules, national bus schedules, and local timetables on her desk made the comparison more vivid. Even the specialists coming in to check their schedules had the atmosphere.

The college has 50 to 60 extension specialists to schedule out as speakers at meetings or as demonstrators wherever requests are made. Some are full-time extension men, and others are part-time. In addition, research specialists from the many departments of the college and the Geneva Experiment Station may be called on. This arrangement is part of the service of the college to the people of the State.

A Rotary club, a Kiwanis club, or a farm organization may want a speaker. The club or organization calls on its county agent who makes the request to Mrs. Monroe. 4-H Club agents and home bureaus do likewise.

The Home Economics College Extension Service may also want a speaker from the agricultural college for some program or demonstration requested, and Mrs. Monroe handles these requests with all the others.

With some 50 to 60 specialists and requests from about 150 agents, the attempt is made to satisfy everybody as far as possible and provide good programs for all counties of the State. The counties have to be treated as equally as possible, and the physical strength of the specialists requested must be considered, as well as the time they need to be at the college to write bulletins, attend training schools, have conferences, and check on research.

"The yellow tabs," said Mrs. Monroe, pointing to her chart, "mean that the time must be reserved and the men cannot be scheduled out. The check-marks on the white tabs refer to the subject, time, and place for which they are scheduled."

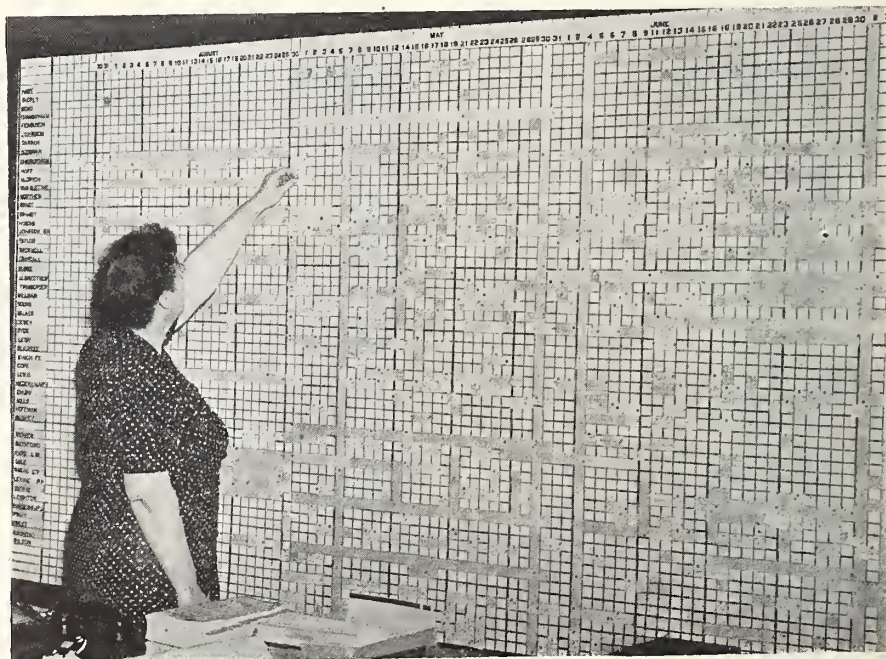
With a large correspondence every day, she can tell by a glance at the chart where each man is to be and whether he can be assigned to a request that has just come.

If he can be assigned, she looks up train and bus schedules from the timetables, which probably are more complete in her office than in any other place in the State; and she plans the route to use as little time as possible. Some of the specialists go by college cars, and one of the three other women in the office handle the details.

"The fun comes in," she said, "when Saturday morning arrives and details have not been completed for the following week's scheduling of a specialist. Telephone calls must be made or telegrams sent. Some dates are fixed far in advance; but others come in as emergencies, where, for instance, a farmer's pigs are dying or weather conditions have affected growing."

Occasionally, a call comes in asking where the speaker is who is supposed to arrive at a meeting. This happened recently, Mrs. Monroe said, when a new specialist didn't realize that the meeting date was definite.

**Mrs. Blanche W. Monroe places a tab on her wall chart for another appointment made for an extension speaker.**



He was busily working away in his office at the college.

Mrs. Monroe is fond of the poem written by the late Bob Adams, author of "Rude Rural Rhymes," who as an extensioner for many years traveled the State in the interests of the 4-H Clubs. It follows:

My familee I seldom see,  
My face they hardly know;  
The curse that drew the Wandering Jew

Is on me as I go.  
O Robin-son, that heartless one,  
He does not give a hoot.  
Excuse these tears, the train appears,  
I hear the engine toot.  
In broken scraps I take my naps  
and eat my meals enroute.  
The quick lunch place must feed my face

From Beersheba to Dan;  
I grab my pie upon the fly,  
For I'm a 'tension man.

Mrs. Monroe began as a secretary for Professor Robinson; but, as the college grew and the Extension Service with it, she helped "bring up" the scheduling office to what it is today. This "clearing house" or "train dispatching" function ties in with the main responsibilities of Professor Robinson's office—that of integrating and coordinating the extension work.



# Salvage fat is still needed

■ Despite VJ-day, the shortage of fats is still critical and will be for several months to come. Officials of WPE urge that there be no let-up in the effort to salvage all the waste fat. Extension agents have helped rural people better their record in fat salvage during the last few months. How this was done is illustrated in Carroll County, Ind., where most of the population live in rural communities.

The possibilities of greater fat salvage in Carroll County were shown by a test survey made last year which showed that only about half of the rural families were turning in waste fats, although an additional 25 percent of them indicated they were willing to participate in this important service if some complications were cleared up.

County Agent Robert Van Slyke tackled the job of removing existing bottlenecks, chief among which was inadequate collection facilities.

First, in a meeting of key representatives of every available town and rural civic, farm, religious, and youth organization in the county, the existing problems were discussed; and plans were laid for a coordinated program of publicity throughout the county and for the establishment of collection centers in every rural community.

It seems that every organization represented at that meeting caught the spirit of the renewed emphasis on salvaging the waste fats. County newspaper publishers went back to their shops from the meeting and set up streamer headlines announcing the 1945 county goal for waste fat salvage and, in a complete coverage story, outlined details for the campaign. One service club agreed to be responsible for getting the cooperation of all the grocers and meat store managers who, for one reason or another, had either quit or failed to start serving as collection agents for waste fats. Club representatives went from the meeting to report to their clubs and to seek ideas for assisting in the county-wide salvage drive.

As a result, some of the local clubs came up with unique plans for adding to the all-out campaign. For

example, the Rural Youth club drew up plans for an old-fashioned hay ride sometime in July; and they made the program so inviting that all members would want to attend. But the price of admission was a can of waste fat to be turned in before the day of the hay ride.

County Agricultural Agent Van Slyke, who is a thorough organizer, set up jobs for every individual and organization that wanted to help and, through his office organization, sent out a series of informative letters to hundreds of farmers and homemakers in the county explaining the program.

Collection facilities were improved, and the rural people responded with bigger contributions to the waste-fats campaign.

The county war food assistant, Mrs. Reba S. Briggs, conducted a survey of 15 families picked at random several weeks after the fats campaign was renewed. She discovered that nearly 15 percent more families were saving fats than before the campaign.

A further check-up revealed, however, that almost every grocer and meat merchant in the county was



County newspapers cooperated in an excellent manner to help renew the campaign for salvaging waste fats in rural areas.

serving as a collection agent and that the total poundage collected had increased well over 25 percent as a result of the campaign. All told, about 75 percent of the rural people in the county are now participating in the fats-salvage campaign, and the organization is trying to make every rural homemaker a contributor in this important job assigned to the home front.

## Cookies by the truckload

■ Headed by a big truck displaying a large red cross, Beaufort County, N. C., home demonstration clubwomen took a load of cookies and flowers to the sick and wounded servicemen at Camp Lejeune. Under the direction of the home demonstration agent, Violet Alexander, 29,000 cookies and 70 dozen gladioli, as well as other flowers, were distributed with the help of convalescents.

Did the boys like it? Well, ward 6 sent a letter to Miss Alexander with 93 signatures, telling what it meant to them; and the Red Cross officials on duty said they had never seen anything like it. The 26 women who accompanied the donation to help with the distribution felt well repaid.

The idea started at the county

federation meeting in May. Sugar was a stumbling block, so Miss Alexander appeared before the ration board and got 75 extra pounds of sugar, which was distributed to clubs in 5-pound packages. The Brantley Swamp Club, of Aurora, contributed more than 1,000 cookies and refused extra sugar, saying that they preferred to practice a little self-denial and use their own sugar.

The cookies were assembled at the regular curb market on Saturday. Cookies of many shapes and sizes continued to pour in all day. Some had a red cross or similar designs worked out in the icing. Civic clubs, 4-H Clubs, and individuals brought in cookies and flowers. One of the largest flower donations came from a group of Dutch settlers at Terra Ceia.



# Flashes

## FROM SCIENCE FRONTIERS

A few hints of what's in the offing as a result of scientific research in the U. S. Department of Agriculture that may be of interest to extension workers, as seen by Marion Julia Drown, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

■ **Heat-resistant eggs.** Not that you will want to start storing eggs under the stove instead of in the refrigerator, but an interesting new development of poultry research is the production of infertile eggs that retain their eating quality for as long as 2 weeks at 100° F., which is approximately hatching temperature. Most eggs are unfit for table use after 1 week at such a temperature. The hens that lay the heat-resisting eggs are the result of selective breeding by the Department's poultry scientists. Other lines of chickens have been bred that lay eggs superior in other characteristics. For example, the eggs of one line have a larger percentage of thick -white than usual, which makes them poach and fry better. Another line lays eggs almost entirely free from blood spots. Other hens have been bred to produce eggs that have thicker, less porous, and stronger shells. The objective of the breeding work is to improve the market quality of eggs, and the principles established can be applied by progressive poultrymen.

■ **New long-lasting cotton.** A process for treating cotton that protects it from rot and mildew has been developed by the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry at the Southern Regional Laboratory. The new material has the strength and appearance of ordinary cotton, plus the ability to resist the attack of rot-producing micro-organisms. The treatment includes partial acetylation. Four "nots" are very important to the usefulness of cotton fabric treated by the new process: It is not discolored, it is not toxic, it does not have an odor, and it is not sticky. The fact that it is non-toxic as well as rot-resistant makes the treated fabric an excellent material for bags for fruits, vegetables,

and other food products. Other uses for the treated cotton cloth, yarn, and thread are for clothing, tents, and awnings that will not mildew or rot in damp climates and for fish nets that can be put away wet without danger of rotting. Tests of the partially acetylated cotton were made by burying it in the ground in soil teeming with micro-organisms that would have rotted ordinary cloth or thread within a week. The treated cotton withstood such conditions for 6 months with very little loss of strength.

■ **What DDT will and will not do.** A knowledge of the practical uses of DDT insecticides in agriculture and around the house is still far from complete in spite of the fact that several million pounds have been used by the Army, Navy, and Public Health Service for war purposes.

The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, which first developed the potentialities of this material, has conducted extensive tests with DDT during the past 2½ years in cooperation with various State agricultural experiment stations and other agencies. It is carrying on further intensive research to establish its usefulness in peacetime and to determine the best and safest methods of using it.

For example, DDT is suitable for use as an insecticide only when properly prepared. It is insoluble in water but can be dissolved in other solvents for making spray solutions or ground into a fine powder and mixed with other powdered materials for dusting. Only a small quantity of DDT—up to 10 percent as a maximum—is needed in insecticides. It is not effective against all insects and is much slower in action against certain ones than some other materials now in use, such as pyrethrum and rotenone.

It has been shown that DDT is harmful to many beneficial insects such as honeybees, which will limit its use in protecting certain crops. It is toxic to fish, but not to animals except in considerable amounts. Its harmful effects on human beings have not been established but repeated or prolonged exposure to materials containing it should be avoided. Extensive tests are under way to determine possible injurious effects of DDT on plants and effects of residues in the soil on growth of crops.

Despite these precautions and the present uncertainties attending its use, scientists believe that DDT will have an important place in insect control along with other materials already in use. The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine has prepared a mimeographed statement containing these precautions and also giving instructions, so far as they have been formulated, for the use of DDT insecticides against household pests and insects affecting man and animals. The statement, entitled "Suggestions Regarding the Use of DDT by Civilians," is available on application to the Bureau.

## Five districts establish school forests

The Arkansas Extension Service is proud of its school forests located at Pleasant Hill, Laneburg, Cale, Bluff City, and Rosston. These school forests were established in 1940 and 1941 in cooperation with a lumber company, the State Forestry Commission, and the local school boards.

The lumber company gave each of the school districts 5 to 10 acres of land and the pine seedlings to set each area. The planting was done by the pupils under the supervision of the County Extension Service.

Each year the areas are reset where good stands have not been obtained. About 14,000 pine seedlings were planted this past spring. The school forests were judged recently by Harold A. Howell, extension forester. Bluff City was first, Rosston second, and Laneburg third. A total of \$25 was given to these schools by the lumber company.

The older trees have now reached a height of 6 to 8 feet.



# No peaches were wasted

■ The largest southern peach crop on record hit the market during June and July of the past summer. The Extension Service went to work on this problem to prevent food waste at a time food was badly needed in many parts of the world.

In Georgia a conference on peach utilization was called by Lurline Collier, State home demonstration agent, and included food preservation and utilization specialists, editors, and representatives of food chain stores. Following this was a training program for home demonstration agents and the wide use of news and radio releases. A complete canning guide with a natural color cover, the four new 4-H canning manuals, as well as special circulars on freezing, dehydrating, brining, pickling, krauting, and other means of preserving food, were given wide distribution.

Special schools for teaching methods in freezing and canning peaches

were given in Georgia, Kentucky, Arkansas, and other States. A peach fact sheet was sent to all agents in Oklahoma. Instructions for processing by using small amounts of sugar were supplied to all vocational agriculture school community canning centers in Louisiana; 50,000 leaflets, *Use Arkansas Peaches*, with recipes for canning with and without sugar were sent to county home demonstration agents for distribution and also to directors of extension in peach-consuming States; Arkansas chain stores carried advertisements and printed recipes.

An interesting feature of the Arkansas campaign was the letter that went to the hotel association, restaurant association, retail grocers, chain stores, State presidents of civic clubs, and members of the State Consumer-Nutrition Committee, urging use of Arkansas peaches.

Texas specialized in information on drying peaches because of the

sugar shortage. By radio and press release this idea was brought to the attention of Texas homemakers.

In South Carolina agents aided in a truck service exchange in the peach area, which helped to make the fruit available, and distributed many copies of the printed circulars on canning. Tennessee carried on an extension campaign through press and radio, distributing two attractive leaflets, *Peaches, How To Use Them* and *Working and Canning With Less Sugar*. Letters sent to all peach growers explained the program and enclosed publications.

Peach-consuming States such as Kansas, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Vermont cooperated by giving wide distribution to peach recipes and directions for canning and preserving peaches over radio and press. When all was said and done, many more cans of peaches graced the home pantry; many families had used and enjoyed the plentiful peach more than ever before; and, best of all, little of the bumper peach crop was wasted in the critical last few months of the war.

# Canning caravans tour New York

■ Seven counties in New York organized canning caravans to help local communities with their canning problems. The caravans were sponsored by the College of Home Economics at Cornell University and the State Emergency Food Commission.

Arrangements were made with the American Red Cross to obtain regular canteen kitchens for use as canning caravans in five counties. In the other two counties, St. Lawrence and Wyoming, trailers belonging to the local extension office were used.

These mobile canning units were manned by home demonstration agents and other food consultants and toured the principal communities in the counties. Each unit seated six or seven people at a time. It was equipped with stove, running water, cupboards, lights, and all types of canning equipment. Gages for testing pressure cookers and a good supply of canning bulletins and leaflets were always on hand.

Anyone could bring in cans of

spoiled food to have them analyzed by nutrition experts to determine the cause of spoilage and its remedy. Advice on how much to can for individual families and any other help needed was freely given. Each caravan served as a canning information

center and a canning clinic as long as it remained in the community.

In addition to St. Lawrence and Wyoming, Broome, Albany and Rockland Counties and the cities of Buffalo and Rochester organized such caravans.



# A trip to West Africa

T. M. CAMPBELL, Field Agent, Extension Service

The first of two articles by Mr. Campbell telling of his experiences in making a survey of education in West Africa.

■ On March 10, 1944, a telegram came from Dr. Jackson Davis, associate director of the General Education Board, New York City, asking me to join a small Anglo-American group in the study of agricultural and rural problems and mass education in certain West African areas, under the auspices of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America and the Conference of Missionary Societies in Great Britain and Ireland.

The survey was headed by Dr. Davis. Those who were to assist him were: Miss Margaret Wrong, of the International Committee on Christian Literature for Africa, with headquarters in London; Dr. George W. Carpenter and Dr. H. W. Coxill, both educational secretaries of the Congo Protestant Council, stationed at Leopoldville, Belgian Congo; Rev. J. M. Lewars, supervisor of schools, Church of Scotland Mission, Callaba, Nigeria, and myself.

After I had accepted the invitation it gradually dawned upon me that preparation for travel abroad was an extremely complicated affair, especially for a civilian in wartime. The major formalities were obtaining a passport, inoculations, visa, and transportation priorities.

## Getting a Wartime Passport

It frequently takes from 4 to 6 weeks to obtain a passport from the State Department. For this, one has to go to the clerk of a State or Federal Court, "authorized to naturalize aliens," and submit an application. Here one must produce proof of citizenship—a birth certificate, an old passport, or a certificate from the board where one votes, or sign an affidavit before a notary public stating the year and place of birth and giving the names of parents. Now, all this may seem quite simple, but in my case it was not so easy. For instance, I had no birth certificate, and having never been abroad before, I held no old passport. In fact, at one time, it looked as though I did not have any of the requirements neces-

sary to obtain a passport. Two other important items that were new to me were that I had to obtain a release from my local draft board, in spite of the fact that we now have three children serving with the armed forces, and also a letter of recommendation from the local chief of police.

After much swearing of oaths, photographing, and fingerprinting, I received my precious passport. I say precious because it is just that. I soon learned that while abroad one must hold onto this document no matter what happens, or risk dire consequences.

## I Got My Full Quota of "Shots"

Next in importance to passports and visa is an immunization register showing protection against certain communicable diseases; otherwise one cannot leave this country or enter other countries. A letter of presentation from the U. S. Department of Agriculture to the U. S. Public Health Service made this formality quite easy, insofar as authorization goes, but nonetheless painful in taking the "shots" against yellow fever, typhoid, tetanus, smallpox, and cholera.

It is surprising, the number of little things that arise in connection with obtaining transportation abroad in wartime. There is the question of priorities to travel by plane or boat and the difficulty in establishing exact places and dates of departure. The amount of baggage one may carry is determined by the mode of travel. If by boat, ample supply for a reasonable length of time can be taken; but if by plane, only 55 pounds is allowed, which calls for careful planning. Fighting in Europe and North Africa was so fierce in 1944 that we were forced to carry on a regular stop-and-go performance from April 15, the day we were originally scheduled to depart, until September 23, when we boarded at Miami, Fla., for Latin America, a Flying Clipper at the Pan-American

International Marine Airport, the largest commercial seaplane base in the world.

We did not board the plane until we were thoroughly gone over by Customs and FBI officials, who examined, minutely, our passports and every piece of our baggage and asked many searching questions. Thus began the first lap of our trip to West Africa.

Our first rest and refueling stop was Antilla, Cuba. We spent the night at Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Leaving there early the morning of the 24th, we refueled at San Juan, P. R. During our 30-minute stop there, I strolled out a few paces from the airport; and, to my surprise, up drove a pick-up truck, marked U. S. D. A. In conversation with the driver, I learned that he was a United States Government employee stationed at San Juan and connected with tropical plant-disease control. Late in the afternoon we arrived at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. Leaving there early the next day, we rested and refueled at Paramaribo, and the same afternoon arrived at Belem, the capital of the State of Para in Brazil and one of South America's handsomest cities. We had to lie over there for 2 days waiting for plane passage, so I went out to see the city, all the while becoming more conscious that we were getting farther away from home, because the weather was hotter, the people were different, and so was the currency. We had to convert our American money into Brazilian cruzeiros in order to pay our bills. We visited the famous Jungle Park, where many specimens of animal and plant life from the great Amazon River Basin are kept on exhibition for the public. We saw the famous eighteenth century cathedral and the nearby 300-year-old Portuguese fort.

Early on the morning of September 28, we left Belem and landed at Natal, Brazil, in midafternoon the same day. Because of the war situation, priorities, and the like, we were told that our departure for Africa was uncertain. This proved true, for we were grounded there for 17 long days; in fact, we stayed so long the Army threatened to put us in uniform. Upon our arrival, we were given the choice of stopping at a





Charles E. Trout (center) shakes hands with an African rural school teacher in front of a school building in Liberia. Mr. Trout was negro county agent in Tuscaloosa County, Ala., before going to Liberia as agricultural adviser to the Government.

United States Army base or going to a hotel in the city of Natal. We readily chose the base. This decision was influenced by Army transportation, safe drinking water, screened living quarters, food—United States style, laundry service, and English conversation. While Dr. Davis and I were waiting, a United States Army officer took us out into the country near Natal. We inspected the Rockefeller Farms, a huge tract of land named for the philanthropist. This project is patterned somewhat after our FSA agency, except in addition to having individual families it is used as a training center for young men above 21 years of age. They volunteer to spend 1 year on the farm under the tutelage of a trained agriculturist. We visited a typical Brazilian country village. The mode of transportation is by donkey and on foot; much of the produce is carried on the heads of the people.

On October 15, at 5:30 p. m., we took a seaplane at Natal and flew across the Atlantic Ocean in 1 night, arriving at Fisherman's Lake, Liberia, at 9:30 a. m. the next day. The approximate number of miles

flown from Miami to Liberia were 5,147.

Before I go further, I think I should mention one of our former Alabama extension agents in Negro extension work, Charles E. Trout, who gave up his work in Tuscaloosa County in June 1944 to accept a position as agricultural adviser to the Liberian Government at Monrovia, the capital. I spent some time with Mr. Trout and found him doing a good job of introducing extension work among the African farmers.

*(To be concluded)*

## 103 members make 516 garments

Andrew County, Mo., 4-H clothing project members are going to be well dressed for school this winter, according to their 4-H records which show that 102 girls and 1 boy in 14 clubs completed 516 garments valued at \$796. Articles ranged from tea towels and laundry bags made by first-year members to suits, coats, and complete costumes made by advanced clothing project girls.

Feed sacks were utilized by many

4-H'ers in making aprons, pinafores, and tea towels in their first-year clothing project. The largest project group was one of 10 girls in Hackberry club that met once a week and made slips, aprons, and tea towels. Roland Clark, Bolchow club, the only boy enrolled in a clothing project in the county, made a shirt for himself as well as a comfort protector, laundry bag, and tea towel for his home to complete the first-year requirements.

Eva and Fern Titsworth, sister members of the Avenue club, do all the family washing and ironing in connection with the clothing-care phase of their second-year clothing work.

Work dresses were popular garments for the girls in the third-year clothing project where Marilyn Taylor of Dean club used denim for a jumper dress.

A good-looking hat and bag combination was worked out by the county style revue winner, Virginia Worthington of Platte club. Using brown felt, with green and beige applique, she made a fringed drawstring bag and a Dutch hat. Both the hat and bag carried out the four-leaf clover motif. With these she wore the dress she made, a brown wool jersey accented in green and beige.

Made-overs are nothing to be scorned when they turn out as well as the complete fall wardrobe of 13 garments made by Dorothea McCue of Dean club at a total cost of \$4.33.

A skirt of her mother's was converted into a jumper for herself. She ripped up two of her baby dresses and made an attractive blouse to complete the ensemble. A white rayon dress was cut down from a size 40 to a size 14 at no cost except for the thread. Her suit, the basis for her fall wardrobe, was remodeled from an old one, the only expense being new buttons and thread. She remodeled an outdated pink wool dress at no additional cost and made over a blouse to go with her suit and skirts. She made two dresses from feed sacks and obtained remnants for others. She was unable to find wool yarn in the shade she wanted for embroidery on her best dress, so she dyed the yarn.

Betty June Schaber of the Dean club completed seven made-over garments.

—Ruth E. Cochran, home demonstration agent, Andrew County, Mo.





## Extension agents in the armed forces

Nineteen extension workers have made the supreme sacrifice. More than 1,300 extensioners serve their country in the armed forces. These men and women are in many parts of the world and in various branches of the service. Sometimes their experiences are a far cry from those of pre-war days.

### Flying Cross for district club agent

High honors have come to a Michigan State College extension staff member serving in the armed forces. Lt. Carl H. Moore of Quincy, on leave of absence as district agent in Cass, Berrien, and Van Buren Counties, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. This is not the first honor to be bestowed on Lieutenant Moore who is a medium bomber navigator. He adds the DFC to the Air Medal and eight oak leaf clusters previously earned.

Lieutenant Moore received the award at a special ceremony held on a former German airfield in France and conducted by Maj. Gen. Samuel E. Anderson, commanding general of the United States Air Force Bombardment Division.

The award was made for bravery in leading a flight of B-26 Marauders through foggy weather to a vital target and back to the air base, although he had been wounded shortly after the bombers dropped their charges.

The citation accompanying the award read in part:

"When unfavorable weather en route to the objective caused a formation of B-26 type aircraft to become separated, Lieutenant Moore led his single flight into the target and successfully released his bombs. Shortly thereafter he was wounded by a burst from enemy aircraft fire. Despite his injury he continued directing evasive action until the flight was safely out of firing range. The professional skill and courage demonstrated by Lieutenant Moore on this occasion reflect

the highest credit upon himself and his organization."

Lieutenant Moore had participated in 47 missions prior to his DFC citation.

Further tribute is paid the 4-H Club agent in a letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Moore of Quincy. It came from Major Seebalt of Rochester, Mich., who was in Lieutenant Moore's squadron. The following is one of his statements:

"Carl has gained a respect in his group that is not shared by any other navigator. We have always followed him with the utmost confidence and, needless to say, have never been let down."

### Engineering overseas

Lt. Jesse W. Skinner, Harlan County agent, Nebraska, wrote from "around France in a staging area." He described the country there as semiarid with only olive trees and grapes growing in the higher, rocky sections. The flat lowland is irrigated and produces vegetables, grain, and hay. Livestock is limited to sheep, goats, and some substitutes for dairy cattle. The days were hot but the nights were cool. The lieutenant says that central France and east of the Rhine were the most productive areas he saw. Even there, though, farming is done with cattle and with crude implements. His engineering outfit built roads in Normandy and railroads and bridges in France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. Their headquarters were within 55 miles of Berlin. Their longest stretch of new track was 4½ miles of new American rail in Holland. Their toughest going, he said,

was the Roer River crossing. Their biggest accomplishment was helping to build the Rhine River bridge at Duisberg. It was built in 6 days and 15 hours, 2,815 feet long and 36 feet above the water.

### How strange this war!

Some of his mates in the Navy made regular trips to the Blood Donor Center while they were stationed here in Washington. So he went, too, then forgot about it for there were more important things to think about—things like Tarawa that August in 1944. The sounds of battle echoed all around him as he lay on the hot, bleached sands of the beach and tried desperately to stop the blood gushing from a shrapnel wound in his leg. He was cursing the fate that had put him out of action so soon, when two corpsmen came dashing over to him. Working quickly and without a word, one of them ripped the donor tag from a bottle of blood plasma, threw the tag to him, and set up the bottle for a transfusion while the other powdered the wound with sulfa.

Eternities later, when his mind was quiet again, he looked at the tag that was still clutched in his hand. The name engraved on it was his own—Harry F. Starner, USN, Washington, D. C.

Harry F. Starner has been an employee of the U. S. Department of Agriculture since he received an honorable discharge from the Navy.

### THE ROLL CALL

(Continued from last Month)

#### WISCONSIN

Ens. Bryant Kearl, assistant extension editor, U.S.N.R.

Ens. Catherine Kerr, Navy.

#### NEBRASKA

Pvt. Marvin L. Vaughn, Nuckolls County agent, Army.



# Georgia boys study farm machinery

■ When the Extension Service held a machinery short course for urban and rural boys in Georgia during June, the reactions were so favorable that they bear quotation. Here's what some of the folks concerned had to say:

"Boys that had never driven a tractor quickly learned . . . Boys that had no idea of the difference between a deep well and a shallow well punp now speak of them like an expert . . . This method of training compares favorably with the rapid method used by our Army and Navy in training young men for war,"—*W. A. Sutton, State 4-H Club leader.*

"If all the boys came home with the same enthusiasm Jack did, this course will be of much benefit in keeping our boys on the farm and thereby make it possible for them to earn a better living by using the proper kind of machinery . . ."—*B. T. Wheelchel, father of boy who attended course.*

"All of us were agreeably surprised at the apparent success. At first we were hesitant about getting the cooperation of the companies . . . food points . . . boys being able to leave farms. However, all these difficulties were worked out . . . and we had about 500 enrolled. We must have turned down at least 100."—*G. I. Johnson, extension agricultural engineer.*

## 4-H Club Camp Utilized

How was the course set up? Why were the teaching methods so successful? In what way did the course prove valuable to the farm labor program?

It is apparent that experiences with 4-H Club camps were a big help to those who planned the short course. In the first place, it was held at Camp Fulton 4-H Club camp near College Park, Ga. The 4-H Club staff was responsible for operating the camp. The camp manager was a school teacher and the dietitian a home economics teacher. There were, in addition, a kitchen supervisor and five cooks. Four farm labor assistants were on hand to help with recreation and supervision.

The course was held over four different 1-week periods and was open to both town and farm boys; 256 out of 481 enrolled came from farms. Boys, who had to be at least 14 years old, were approved by their county agents. Farm labor funds financed the short course, which cost approximately \$6,000, Sutton reports.

## Good Teachers Get Good Results

Extension engineers G. I. Johnson and H. S. Glenn supervised the teaching program and had able assistance in representatives of machinery, tire, and oil firms. Good teachers may have been one reason for the success of the subject matter

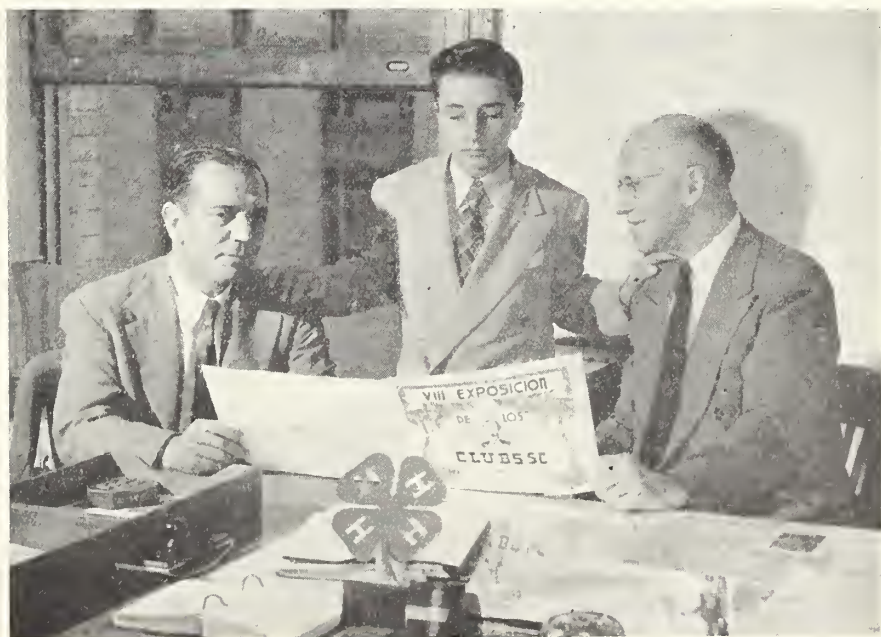
teaching. As Johnson points out, "All the companies sent some very good men."

The boys were soon putting into practice the knowledge gained at the course. In Hall County, most of the 24 boys who attended were working on tractors or grain combines after they returned home. That has been a help where farm labor has been so critically short. As Sutton explains, "These 481 boys will help produce and harvest crops this year in sufficient quantity to repay many times the funds spent in training them."

He thinks the program will reach much further than relief for labor shortage. It will also help these boys to be better farmers.

# Representing the rural youth of Cuba

Dr. Enrique Bello, chief of the 5-C Clubs of Cuba (left) shows Ray Turner of the Federal 4-H Club staff the program for the Eighth Annual 5-C Exposition held in the Cuban Capitol Building at Havana. In the center is Ramon Lorenzo, 14 years old, the champion 5-C member and best young gardener in all Cuba. His winnings at Havana won Ramon a trip to the United States. Dr. Bello and young Ramon are visiting 4-H Clubs in the Eastern States. The 5-C Clubs, based on the organization of the 4-H Clubs, now have 12,000 members enrolled.



# For veteran county agents only

Some thoughts by K. F. Warner, extension meat specialist, who entered the service as an assistant county agent in Nebraska in 1915.

■ John Smith, veteran county agent, peered over his glasses at his brand new assistant agent and sagged perceptibly. John shook hands mechanically, and sank into the friendly arms of his office chair. He glanced toward the open window as if to see that the sun still shone, then forced his eyes back across the desk toward his new assistant.

Yes, it was true. His first glance had not deceived him. Help came in strange packages these days. Wonder if this man could tell oats from wheat. Have to be careful not to let him sunburn.

Smith listened with half attention, as the new man told about himself. District agents, the veteran mused, had a hard time finding men; but he wondered if they worked as hard to find them as he did to train them.

## Gray Heads Predominate

He reveled a moment longer in this self-pity. This was a fine mess to hand him. He was John Smith. Sergeant John Smith, sir! Veteran of the Argonne—veteran county agent. Some of his past problems and achievements crowded before his eyes. He measured his recruit more carefully, then squared his jaw. His back stiffened to military posture in the office chair. Sergeant Smith could handle this detail.

John Smith is fictitious, of course; but his counterpart and his situation exist in many extension offices through all the States. Extension is 31 years old, and gray hairs predominate in many places. Old-timers, some say. Old fogies is the term that's often used. Time for new blood! Need somebody with pep and vigor! That's true, but those gray heads must not be replaced too soon. They are making, now, one of their greatest contributions. They are training the hands that are to carry on, and those hands have much to learn.

Do you old-timers remember the first night meetings you held in your county, where you parroted your college lecture notes on fertilizers or

seed selection, hog feeding or disease control? Your face gets red when you recall your amateurish, bookish efforts to advise practical farm people. You wonder why they came to hear you or let you stay.

The main reason that the farmers let you stay was because your attitude was right. You were trying to be of service. You were reaching out, almost frantically, for ways to make the science of the laboratory useful to this, your new community. You were modest, energetic, cooperative. You obeyed instinctively the first unwritten rule of all county agents, "Don't take yourself too seriously."

The wise farm people understood. They called you a green kid but a nice one. They forgave you much because they knew you wanted to be one of them. They figured they could make a useful man of you because you had the proper attitude. And they were right.

## Good Times and Bad

Build that same attitude in your new helper. It is your most important job today. Inoculate him with that same feeling toward his job, his people, and himself. You and you alone can do this properly.

It is 31 years since 1914. Those years cover good times and bad; drought and flood; peace and war; hunger, hardship, and prosperity. You, Mr. Veteran, have seen it all. Paul Revere rode his horse but once. Your saddle has rarely cooled. Feed and stock cars for drought-stricken cattle, mixing and distribution of grasshopper bait, catch crop campaigns after late or early freezes, rush calls for hog cholera serum, storage facilities for surplus crops, salvage drives, farm labor—whatever the immediate problem of your farm people, that has been your job.

Tell that to your new assistant, too. Big plans, good plans, practical plans are a constructive foundation for extension work; but the wires that hum along the fence rows bring you the current problems of the folks you serve. Lend this new man

your set of ear phones, and teach him to understand the signals that flow through them.

Do you remember the first time you showed a group of farmers how to prune trees? You could prune trees, of course. But your first demonstration was a fizzle. The orchardmen who came saw you jump from branch to branch, cutting and snipping as you went. They lent you a saw because yours was dull. They picked up your pruning shears several times when you let them fall. But the principles of pruning you left to their imagination. Remember?

## Set a Good Example

You cannot make an expert demonstrator out of your new assistant all at once, but you can help him practice. Let him watch you a time or two beforehand. Don't forget to have all your equipment ready. Arrange things so everyone can see. Put some punch into your opening and carry through clearly to a snappy finish. Set him the best example you can.

School your successor in other extension methods, too. How to teach by merely asking questions. How to find good ideas on every farm you visit. How to make every contact a "get" as well as "give" affair.

Show him the effectiveness of brevity, of talking and writing clearly, but not too much. Go back through the years and show him how you have leaned on the specialists. Agents, like farmers, have many skills to learn.

Teach your successor the great names and great achievements that are the proud possession of the Extension Service. Inspire him with the traditions you old-time extensioners have helped to create.

You can't teach the new man all you have learned, but you can steer him past many of the rough places. You can instill him with the proper attitude; kindle the same fire in his heart that burns in yours.

Help comes in strange packages these days, it's true, even as it did when you and I first became county agents. But the sun still shines, Mr. Veteran. The future, like the past, is in your hands.

Sergeant! Take charge of the detail.



# *We Study Our Job*

## **Extension has a reconversion problem**

The war caused many major adjustments in the extension workers' program. Peace will call for many more changes.

In 1944 county extension workers reported that nearly one-third of their time was devoted directly to the war effort, primarily to increasing food supplies and critical war materials. Two-thirds of the agents' time was spent indirectly on the agricultural war objectives. Since the war started and through 1943, the agents' effort to increase war food supplies through victory gardens and food preservation activities brought about more extension work with nonfarm families than ever before.

By 1944, however, the statistical reports show a marked drop from 1943 in the number of both farm and nonfarm families influenced. This decrease raises the question as to whether extension workers did not have too large a load in working with farm, rural nonfarm, and urban people.

From time to time we shall present in this column an analysis of county extension reports. These analyses we hope will give guidance in improving Extension's service to rural people in the future.

## **Will servicemen turn to dairying?**

How many returning veterans and other young people will want to dairy farm? What can they expect from dairy farms? How many dairy farmers will retire? These are some of the questions raised in a study made in the Myrtle Point Community of Coos County, Oreg., where dairying is the major agricultural enterprise. The study is an illustration of a procedure that might be used in other counties.

The names and addresses of youth over 18 years of age who had lived or worked on a dairy farm or were

interested in dairy farming were obtained in a survey of 50 dairy farmers. A questionnaire and a form letter were mailed to 70 of these young men who were in the armed forces; 11 still living in the community were personally interviewed.

Of the 70 servicemen, 40 were overseas and 30 were in the United States at the time the letters were mailed; 32 answered the questionnaire and 15 of the answers came from servicemen overseas. Two-thirds of the servicemen indicated they would be interested in dairying to make a living in the next 10 years. Over half of them expected to go into partnership with their parents or take over the home farm.

Further details on the service and nonservice youth and the dairy farmers surveyed are given in a 32-page printed thesis, **DAIRY FARM OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MYRTLE POINT COMMUNITY, COOS COUNTY, OREGON**, by Ted T. Kirsch, National 4-H Club Fellowship Student, Oregon State College, June 1945.

## **Channeling research into education**

In his book of this title, John E. Ivey, Jr., calls attention to the "huge reservoir of research findings" of various institutions in the Southern States. He feels we have not made use of these research findings because we have not had effective methods of translating them.

A section of the book is given to the problems of translating research facts for educational use and another to getting such facts to the people through public agencies. Several going experiments are described and evaluated, including the Cooperative Research Translation in the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Kentucky-Sloan Fund Experiment in Applied Economics, the Georgia Citizens' Fact-Finding Movement, and the cooperation between the Arkansas State Planning Commission, State Board of Education, and State University.

"One of the most comprehensively organized attacks on the problems of southern rural life is that guided by the Agricultural Extension Service—a rural educational agency that is outranked only by the family and the school," the author points out.

In a discussion of the Extension Service as a "research translator," some of the improved extension methods used in distributing facts to rural people are commended—such methods of communication as simplified written materials, radio programs, and extension columns in newspapers and magazines.

A 60-page appendix includes an extensive classified bibliography of source materials on southern resources and problems. Listed under 26 headings, the subjects range from minerals and land to such things as health and nutrition and folk culture. There is also an appendix of 8 pages on movies, including many from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Channeling Research Into Education, by John Ivey, Jr., is published by the American Council on Education, Washington, D. C.

## **4-H Club statistics**

The organization of 4-H Club work has expanded ever since its origin, even in the recent war years. This steady 4-H growth is brought out in Extension Service Circular No. 427, entitled **STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF 4-H CLUB WORK, 1914-43, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON 1943**, recently completed by Mrs. Laurel K. Sabrosky of the Federal Extension Office.

This circular brings up to date Extension Service Circulars 312, 345, and 377, which cover statistically the development and growth of 4-H Club work from its beginning in 1914 through 1940.

Statistical reports of 48 States and Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico covering a 30-year period provide the source material for Circular 427.

## Peach picking plus

■ Something new in training work for 4-H Club members was tried out this year in Georgia, and from all reports it was so successful that the pattern may be followed in future years.

For the past 17 years, Negro 4-H Club members have been holding an educational short course at Savannah for training 4-H Club leaders, deciding contest winners, working on the organization of 4-H Clubs and community councils, and other phases of 4-H Club work.

This year, when it became apparent that peach growers in Pike County would not be able to obtain enough labor to harvest the bumper crop, it was decided to hold the annual short course in the county.

The short course was planned to continue for 1 month, or through the peach harvest period, instead of the usual intensive 1-week course held in previous years. Boys were selected by their agents on the same basis as they would have been selected for the regular State short course. The camp was under the direction of Alexander Hurse, Negro State Club agent, and P. H. Stone, Negro State agent in extension work.

The camp program was organized so that the club members could pick peaches during the day and carry out regular 4-H Club activities during the nights and on days when they were unable to work in the orchards.

The Negro club members picked 80,745 bushels of peaches for 18 growers and received \$7,267 for their services. In addition, they received \$609 for working for growers in packing houses and in canning plants.

Before starting work in the orchard, club members were given special training in picking peaches for canning and shipping. A daily record of the peaches picked was kept by each supervisor, and this enabled each boy to know by the end of the day how many bushels he had picked and how much money he had made.

Relations between the growers and the camp personnel were handled by the emergency farm labor assistant.

A supervisor was provided for each group of 15 boys.

At night when the boys returned from the orchards, they would take part in programs outlined by the 4-H Club leaders. Some of these programs included discussions on 4-H Club work, awarding of prizes to the three highest pickers of the day, stunts, movies, singing, talent nights, and discussions on health. On Sunday, ministers led discussions on how to live a wholesome life.

Growers were so well pleased with the services rendered by 4-H Club members that they gave them a barbecue after the harvesting season was over and asked that they return to the county next year for their State short course. The boys were housed in Army tents on the campus of the Negro school at Zebulon.

## Water safety course

A water safety course for boys and girls in Harris County, Ga., organized by Home Demonstration Agent Mrs. Clydè C. Sprayberry, was conducted during June at Blue Springs on the 28,000-acre Harris County estate of Cason J. Callaway, retired industrialist. Instruction was given by Harry J. Lyons, a Red Cross water safety instructor, and a group of assistants.

School busses made their regular rounds each day to carry the boys and girls to Blue Springs, and more than 200 participated in the training course. Certificates were given to 156 at the end of the course.

Classes were held for beginners, intermediates, junior lifesaving, senior lifesaving, and instructors. Two classes were held each day for each group; and Mrs. Sprayberry assisted the instructors with the beginners and junior and senior lifesaving groups. She also took instruction with the various groups.

## Silver anniversary

July marked 25 years of active organization for the Sunshine Workers of Blue Grass Township in Scott County, Iowa. So 96 members, former members, and leaders attended an anniversary celebration at the home of the present leader, Velma Illian.

There were 7 girls in the original

club; today there are 13. Throughout the years there have been 109 members, 7 leaders, and 4 assistant leaders. Thirty girls have been graduated at the age of 21. Twenty-nine of the former members are married and living on farms; 31 have established homes in cities.

## Furniture repair clinics

Furniture repair clinics held in 23 South Dakota counties proved profitable both in conservation and morale building, reports Mrs. Florence McLaron, assistant State home management specialist.

New comfort, style, and beauty were given to 133 chairs of all kinds, 119 davenport and 40 chair cushions, 21 footstools, and 12 davenports. Many of these articles were torn down to the framework and rebuilt with new materials. Because of the scarcity of upholstery yardage, some of the old coverings were replaced; but the furniture is basically now in repair so that the new cover can be added when materials are available.

Although webbing, spring tying twine, and spring sewing twine were rationed to the counties by the upholstery supply firms, an adequate supply was made available to those persons attending. Usually two or three persons worked together to make progress with awkward and heavy jobs during the short time given to the workshop.

Home agents in Minnehaha, Turner, Lake, Clay, and Brookings Counties reported 13 additional clinics which had been conducted as follow-up of the original workshop.

## Trees for servicemen

Eighteen thousand members of Michigan home economics clubs will be asked to plant at least one tree apiece during the next 12 months in honor of men in the armed services. Clubs are located in virtually all counties in the State.

The tree planting will be part of a new project to beautify farm homesteads in Michigan. Plans were drawn up by the Home Economics Council, composed of State officers and directors of the home economics clubs, which are sponsored by the Michigan Extension Service.



# Among Ourselves

■ PAUL E. BROWNE, county agent in Hampden County, Mass., takes his secretary along to certain subject-matter meetings and then sends the notes in mimeographed form to those attending the meeting. This seems to clinch the matter and makes the meetings more effective.

■ H. H. BARNUM, Ingham County, Mich., agricultural agent for the past 16 years, died unexpectedly at his home in East Lansing, April 29.

Mr. Barnum was generally recognized by farmers in the local area as having contributed much to the advancement of farming. He had built up a strong 4-H Club program and had succeeded in erecting a building for the club members at the Mason fairgrounds. Recently he had organized a soil conservation district for his area. He had always succeeded in maintaining a well-balanced program for his county. He was first employed by the Extension Service in 1925, when he assumed the duties of county agricultural agent in Kent County. His second and last appointment was in Ingham County in 1929.

County Agent Barnum owned a 100-acre farm in Barry County and was a graduate of Michigan Agricultural College in 1912. He was born in Woodland, Barry County, June 17, 1886.

■ CLARA R. BRIAN, home demonstration agent in McLean County, Ill., for 25 years, retired September 1 but is still making her home in Bloomington. Miss Brian is a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University, with a master's degree in dietetics and nutrition from Columbia University. She came to McLean County in 1918 and organized home demonstration work there. She has been in the county ever since, with the exception of 2 years which she spent at the University of Minnesota on a Laura Spellman Rockefeller memorial fellowship to further education in child development and parent education.

Miss Brian has built up an organization in McLean County which has 1,700 members and 28 units. No part of the county is untouched by her influence; if she didn't reach the

women of her county one way, she did another. This was her goal, and she was able to instill a desire for service into women with whom she worked so that they in turn became disciples of her philosophy of homemaking. Over a period of about 18 years she has provided menus and recipes for the Bloomington Pantagraph, and those who know, say that women in the county have an unusual appreciation and knowledge of well-balanced family meals because of the newspaper column. She has also carried a weekly radio program, with some of her broadcasts planned for children.

She was one of the first in the State to conduct a survey of the eating habits of school children, and when that survey showed a lack of milk she set in motion a program to correct the situation. She established a demonstration kitchen and at regular intervals has held demonstrations of popular appeal open to the public.

■ HUBERT E. COSBY, head of the Oregon State College Poultry Department, died July 14. He was personally known to almost every poultry and turkey producer in the State and was a man who had taken a leading part in all progressive developments in the industry for the past 25 years.

Under his leadership, first as extension poultryman from 1920 to 1937 and later as head of the poultry department and research work, Oregon's poultry and turkey industry grew from a valuation of less than \$10,000,000 to its present position where it yields an income of more than \$30,000,000 annually from farm marketings of poultry, including turkeys and chickens, plus an additional \$10,000,000 from hatchery products.

A native of Indiana, Cosby attended college at Indiana State Normal and Purdue University. He was extension poultryman for the United States Department of Agriculture and for 2 years poultryman for the University of Missouri Experiment Station before going to Oregon. He was 57 years old.

Cosby is credited with much of the success of a sound poultry marketing program through the organization of producer cooperatives and close working relations with independent packers, feed manufacturers, and produce dealers throughout the State. The long-time poultry program worked out under his guidance more than 20 years ago has continued to the present with few changes, indicating the solid foundation on which it was built.

■ PEARL MACDONALD, extension nutritionist in Delaware since 1929, recently retired from active duty. She was one of the first women to be appointed after the passage of the Smith-Lever Act, when she was put in charge of the home economics extension work in Pennsylvania in 1914, and she developed the work there during the years of World War I. For her work in Delaware she was recently awarded the certificate of recognition by Epsilon Sigma Phi, the national honorary extension fraternity.

"Mine has been a long term of service," says Miss MacDonald. "Back in the days when I taught at Michigan State College I did farmers' institute work, and that type of educational work greatly appealed to me. At the Milwaukee County School of Agriculture from 1912 to 1914 I had the opportunity to do the new type of extension service. When the Smith-Lever law was passed in 1914 I knew that was my field of service. The opportunity for service for so many years is cause for real satisfaction."

■ COL. F. S. HARTMAN, formerly county agent in Montrose and Weld Counties, Colo., gave the members of the Young Farmers Clubs, meeting at Huntingdon, England, a graphic account of what the boys and girls of America do in 4-H Clubs, according to J. C. Hotchkiss, formerly chief organizer of the National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs, now visiting 4-H Clubs in America before taking his new assignment as director of 4-H Clubs in the British West Indies.

# The once-over

Reflecting the news of the month as we go to press

**YOUNG FARMERS AND HOME-MAKERS** have a program of their own in Colorado under the leadership of Lester L. Osborn, just returned from foreign service with the Army but an old-timer in work with youth groups. El Paso County was the first to organize, with the cooperation of the Young Adult Subcommittee of the County Agricultural Planning Committee. Members of the State and county extension staff are contributing their efforts to make this a program which will meet the needs of young people.

**LET'S BE GOOD NEIGHBORS** was the theme of the annual youth institute held at the University of New Hampshire August 13-18. More than 200 boys and girls and leaders heard speakers from the United States and other countries discuss the problems of international peace.

**4-H LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS** have been given to more than 2,500 rural men and women with service records of 5 years or more. According to the records from 44 States, 74 leaders have received the diamond clover for more than 20 years as a leader of a 4-H Club. During the fall achievement days, several thousand more from among the 175,000 local 4-H leaders will get one of these certificates and pins. The first award is the silver clover for 5 years, the second the gold clover for 10 years, the third the pearl clover for 15 years, and highest of all the diamond clover. The certificates are provided by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the pins are purchased by the States.

**ILLINOIS 4-H CLUBS** have selected a State camp as their proposed war memorial to 4-H Club members who will have served in World War II. County organizations are setting their goals for contributions to the memorial fund—\$100,000 to be raised over a period of 2 years.

**THE INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE** on agriculture discussed on page 145 by Director Wilson is the third in a series dating back 15 years.

The first one was held in Washington, D. C., September 8-20, 1930. The second was held in Mexico City, July 6-16, 1942. The first dealt with problems centering around the depression. The second centered on expanded wartime production. The agenda at Caracas dealt with putting into actual practice plans and objectives to improve the standards of living and general well-being of farmers and farm workers.

**4-H CONGRESS IN COLOR**, a series of kodachrome slides telling the story of the National 4-H Club Congress, can now be bought from the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work.

**NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR** went back on the air over the National Broadcasting Company network September 15 with a talk by Secretary Anderson. Revived as a 30-minute program originating in Chicago but picking up Washington programs, it will follow the general pattern of the National Farm and Home Hour programs developed during 17 years of broadcasting but discontinued last February.

**RURAL MEDICAL AND HEALTH FACILITIES** are giving farmers concern, according to a survey of farmers' opinions on post-war problems made recently by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The

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answers indicated that farmers generally are conscious of the fact that farm youth 18 and 19 years old showed the highest rejection rate in the Selective Service for physical, mental, and educational defects of any occupational groups—41 percent compared with an average of 25 percent for other groups. More than four-fifths of the farmers interviewed said they favored more public clinics in rural areas. More than three-fourths said they would like to subscribe to some flat-rate prepayment plan to cover possible hospital bills and the cost of doctors and nurses for themselves and their families.

**FIRE-PREVENTION WEEK**, October 7-13, is receiving the attention of county agents. It is a good time to call to the attention of prospective builders the need for fire-resistant construction. The National Fire Protection Association estimates that the fire losses in farm homes could be cut in half if the building had a sound, efficient heating equipment, properly installed and with adequate safeguards, a properly constructed chimney, sound and adequate wiring, a fire-resistant roof, and lightning rods.

**COUNTY AGENT TROUT** shown in the picture illustrating the article, A trip to West Africa, in this issue, writes to Mr. Campbell: "In many ways I feel that this has been a very successful year—but we have still a long ways to go—and I do mean long. I decided to start a dry-season garden on the old swamp down near the cemetery. This brought about more favorable reaction than anything I have done here. It also gave me a chance to study the local conditions, soil, diseases, and insects." The Liberian extension program emphasizes rice production as the number one problem this year, and agents are setting up Tribal Farms as demonstration farms. Their theme this year is "Neina Blah" (we need rice).

**FROM SHRIVENHAM, ENGLAND**, the Army University Center, J. L. Boatman writes that more students enrolled in agriculture than were expected. Four hundred students chose courses in agriculture, and many more were turned away because of the shortage of teachers.